

Re: Log Phone Calls

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/VB/microsoft.public.vb.general.discussion/2006-10/msg02167.html>

- *From:* "JP Bless" <jp3BlessNoSpam@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 27 Oct 2006 20:57:17 -0400
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Thanks very for the info... and to expvb too. Have a great weekend

"Argusy" <argusy@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:45428FF4.8060705@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

JP Bless wrote:
<snip>

In that I would have to get a 25/9 pin serial cable to be able to connect the (9PIN end) to my com port and the 25pin end to the device. Is there any problem with using this kind of cable... just want to know before I go to buy one.

Again , thanks very much

Many centuries ago (feels like it, anyway), the serial port on many communication devices was standardised to a 25 pin/socket connector, depending on whether they were Data Communication Equipment (DCE) or Data Terminal equipment (DTE)

Parallel ports used another type of connector entirely – big, bulky and you could never stick one into a serial port

Boo-boo Number One:-

Depending on whether a device was a DTE or a DCE, the serial port had either a 25 pins (female) or 25 sockets (Male) in the connectors.

Bugger it, the standard should have just specified pin OR socket connectors, not both for the two groups

Computers 'transmitted' and printers 'received' info, so the computers had male connectors, and printers had female connectors, and the cable was a

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direct socket-to-pin affair. (1 to 1, 2 to 2 etc)

Now comes a problem – what if you want to hook up two computers?

Yep, you had to have another type of cable ('cross-over') where sockets 2 and 3 (no pins in these cables) were swapped, and a heap of others were hooked up in various ways so that eventually the computers could talk.

Lots of problems now occurred as to what constituted DT and DC Equipment. I know the medical world of electronics started producing machines that had serial ports that were either, so hooking up two machines from two manufacturers was a matter of looking up the specs and deciding what sort of cable had to be made so that they could talk.

Fine.

Then Big Blue came along

Big, and I mean BIG Boo-boo. IBM decided that a parallel port on a PC was a 25 pin female connector, and has that ever been a wrong decision, as so many people who didn't know what they were doing just hooked up 25 pin-to-pin cables to parallel